

What is claimed is:

1. A routing processing device which identifies one or a plurality of types of packet formats, and performs routing processing for each packet type, comprising:

5 a packet information extraction portion, which extracts from a packet for identification a prescribed range of fields including at least one identifying information item which identifies the packet type;

a packet judgment portion, which judges the packet type  
10 based on information in a prescribed position among said extracted fields;

a header imparting portion, which creates header information according to the packet type based on the judgment result of said packet judgment portion and imparts the header  
15 information to the packet;

a packet sorting portion which sorts packets based on said header information imparted to the packets; and,

a routing processing portion which performs routing processing of packets sorted by said packet sorting portion,  
20 according to the packet type.

2. The routing processing device according to Claim 1, further comprising a settings table which associates packet types with said routing processing portion, and wherein said header imparting portion creates a packet header information  
25 designating said routing processing portion, based on the judgment result of the packet by said packet judgment portion

and said settings table and imparts this packet header information to the packet.

3. The routing processing device according to Claim 1, wherein said header imparting portion imparts header

5 information containing discarding instruction information to the packet when the packet is not to be subjected to routing processing, and said packet sorting portion discards the packet based on said discarding instruction information.

4. The routing processing device according to Claim 1, 10 wherein the prescribed position range in said extracted fields is variable.

5. A packet type identification device, which identifies one or a plurality of types of packet formats, comprising:

15 a packet information extraction portion, which extracts from a packet for identification a prescribed range of fields including at least one identifying information item which identifies the packet type; and,

a packet judgment portion, which judges the packet type 20 based on information in a prescribed position among said extracted fields.